

Issue 12: INSIDER'S EDGE: Who's better connected than Justin Bieber on Twitter?

The surprising answer? YOU!

Hi, it's Medicaid Marge with the INSIDER'S EDGE. I've said it before, and it's time to say it again: the ACA is about to make life easier for you. (Sigh of relief.)

No, you won't have the ability to slice fresh tomatoes *and* tin cans with a single knife, nor will it yield the delicious results of the Bass-o-Matic, but what I'm here to sell you on today will make your life more convenient than ever before! For the low, low cost of two minutes of your time, you'll find out how!

Broken? Busted? Need a Break? Save Yourself Some Time with Real-Time Data!

As any savvy insider knows, Maryland Medicaid accepts self-attestation. Hello, convenience. It's safe to say, self-attestation is sticking around. Remember, consumers applying for coverage through Medicaid are allowed to self-attest to certain information. This means that they can provide information in their application and they must verify that it is true to the best of their knowledge and belief. Consumers can self-attest to lots of different types of information, for example,

- Household size
- Citizen/immigration status
- Residency
- Age/date of birth
- Income

The good news is, even though self-attestation is sticking around, it will be getting even easier for you! Remember Maryland Health Connection, the awesome new online marketplace for health coverage? Well, Maryland Health Connection will be connected to many federal and state databases. You're probably already familiar with some, like SVES and MABS, but one of the major additions will be a link to the IRS. And now they'll instantaneously give you the info you need in Maryland Health Connection! Only in cases where there is a discrepancy between what the consumer has attested to that cannot be resolved using one of these electronic databases will you need to use the old-fashioned paper verification methods. For example, consumers whose citizenship cannot be verified electronically will have 90 days to provide documentation confirming their citizenship.



KEY POINT: As convenient as using information from the federal data hub will be, you cannot use information obtained through Maryland Health Connection to qualify consumers for other Family Investment programs. Procedures currently used for these programs will remain in place.

You know, with all this extra time I have on my hands, I might just head to Ocean City for the weekend. See you next time, Insiders!